

dedicated AIDS center for long-term care patients.

It was through her work in healthcare that Rivers began to develop a commitment to volunteerism. Her commitment has continued to grow over the last 15 years, and she has become involved in organizing holiday events for foster children, raising funds through AIDSwalk, the Susan G. Komen Race For the Cure and working with children with cancer and their families at the Ronald McDonald House of NY. She has also coordinated mammography reminders for breast cancer awareness in all Macy's stores in the New York City area in conjunction with the City Council Speaker's Office of New York.

Iasha's passion for children and education has led her to giving presentations for college students on dressing for your success. She has also taught business seminars at the Henry Street Settlement for displaced workers building the skills to get back in the workforce.

Ms. Rivers is currently the 2010 Chair of SOCAP's (Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals International) Conference Board. She has also been named the Chair for United Way's 2011 Women United in Philanthropy—The Power of Women. With her combination of leadership, communication skills and volunteerism, Iasha was recently honored with a national award for the 40 Under Forty Dynamic Achievers in 2010. She has also been recognized by the United Way with the prestigious Rising Star Award in 2009.

Rivers attended Hunter College for a B.S. in Economics and is currently pursuing a degree in International Affairs at Columbia University.

Iasha is a single mom of two children, Andrew and Brianna, and lives in Brooklyn, NY.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Iasha A. Rivers.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT ACT

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2010

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, today I am reintroducing the Federal Employees Responsible Investment Act, which would add a socially responsible investment option to the Thrift Savings Plan.

The reckless actions of financial institutions and corporations that contributed to our nation's recession have provided countless illustrations of the need to place a greater emphasis on good corporate governance, as well as social and environmental practices that contribute to safety and sustainability. We must create an environment in which businesses take care of—and are held accountable to—their shareholders, employees and customers. Companies should be encouraged to implement sustainable environmental policies and practices, promote solid workplace relations and produce safe products.

While Federal employees currently have several investment options for their Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) contributions, they are unable to choose one of the fastest-growing categories of investment—socially responsible investment. Investors are increasingly turning to socially responsible investment (SRI) options

because good corporate practices are often an indicator of good management, financial success and long-term stability. In 2009, three out of four large cap SRI mutual funds outperformed the Standard & Poor's (S&P) 500 Index by an average of 6 percentage points, according to data analyzed by the Social Investment Forum, a national association made up of over 400 financial professionals and institutions. A majority of these funds have also outperformed the S&P 500 over three years and over 10 years.

Federal employees deserve the opportunity to invest in companies that embrace the same integrity in their practices that government employees work to uphold. The Federal Employees Responsible Investment Act would direct the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board (FRTIB) to select a "Corporate Responsibility Index" as an option for TSP investment. The index would include companies that meet strict financial criteria, in addition to having strong corporate governance, sustainable environmental policies and practices, solid workplace relations, positive community involvement, safe products, and respect for human rights around the world. Under this bill, the FRTIB would select an index that best meets Federal employees' needs and demonstrates returns comparable to the other investment options available under the TSP.

Making an investment in companies that are committed to corporate responsibility will have a positive impact on our financial system, as well as empower federal employees to reward companies that share their values. I encourage my colleagues to support this measure.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. CHRISTOPHER CERF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Christopher Cerf upon receiving the 2010 Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education. Mr. Cerf has dedicated his life to making educational resources more accessible to all children, and enriching children's educational experiences.

Mr. Cerf began his career after graduating from Harvard University, when he spent eight years as a senior editor at Random House, working with such diverse authors as George Plimpton, Andy Warhol, Abbie Hoffman, Ray Bradbury, and Dr. Seuss. Mr. Cerf then took his talents to the acclaimed children's show Sesame Street where he has been a regular contributor of music and lyrics since the show's first season. He won two Grammy and three Emmy awards for his work with Sesame Street. For over forty years, Mr. Cerf has creatively been educating children using music and lyrics as educational tools.

In 2000, Mr. Cerf and his company Sirius Thinking Ltd., started a new highly acclaimed children's educational daily television program, Between the Lions. Mr. Cerf's literacy series Between the Lions has appeared on PBS for nine seasons, and received two Television Critics' Award for Outstanding Children's TV Program and 10 Emmy Awards. Academic studies have shown that Between the Lions,

and its companion literacy instruction resources, is hugely successful in helping children learn to read, especially those who are at a high risk of literacy failure. The literacy series has proven to have particularly strong results in phonics, vocabulary, and reading frequency.

Mr. Cerf is currently working on yet another educational television series, Lomax, the Hound of Music, which aims to develop children's musical awareness.

In addition to working tirelessly on his educational series, Mr. Cerf is currently a member of the board of directors of Reading Is Fundamental, First Book and the We Are Family Foundation. He is also a governor of the New York Chapter of the Recording Academy.

I am deeply appreciative for Mr. Cerf's life's work in education. On behalf of the 14th District of New York, I am honored to thank Mr. Cerf and to congratulate him on receiving the prestigious Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education. May it help him with his future endeavors in teaching children. I know we can expect to see more great achievements from Mr. Christopher Cerf.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO PAKISTANI PEOPLE AFTER FLOODS

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, Pakistan is suffering from the worst floods in 80 years. About 20 million people have been affected; 1.2 million homes damaged; infrastructure destroyed; and water-borne diseases, such as cholera, are spreading. Significant resources from abroad are needed to alleviate the suffering and long-term consequences.

The U.S. government has responded quickly and effectively. But we also need to address the long-term recovery. We need to help the Pakistani people get back on their feet, even as the waters subside.

I commend the thousands of American individuals, NGOs and private companies that have responded with contributions. I call on them to continue to make or expand their donations. Coca-Cola, Procter & Gamble, Monsanto, GlaxoSmithKline Pakistan, Western Union, Americares and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation are just some of the large donors that have stepped up to the plate. Donations can be made via the State Department's secure web page at www.state.gov/pakistanrelief/index.htm. Donation forms can be downloaded at <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/146290.pdf>. Americans can also donate \$10 by texting "FLOOD" to 27722 (Standard text messaging and data usage rates apply).

A TRIBUTE TO MARTIN JOSEPH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Martin Joseph for his contributions to health care management.